

**DAILY  
EXCLUSIVE**



## **ROYAL BANK CEO DENIED HONORARY DEGREE**

**Story pg. 6-7**

**News –**

Stephane Dion and Daniel Turp duke it out over unity in Leacock – pg. 3

**Culture –**

Are Rosencrantz and Guildenstern really dead? – pg. 10



# UBC Could Face Differential Fees

BY NICHOLAS BRADLEY

VANCOUVER (CUP) - Future students at the University of British Columbia could end up paying differential tuition fees, according to a proposed tuition policy by the university that is currently undergoing public consultation.

A tuition policy committee has recommended that tuition levels for each university program should be set according to the cost of the program per student.

"Individual programs differ in the costs of delivery per student," reads the committee's report, dated April 1999. "The proportion of program cost paid as tuition by students can differ in magnitude both by category of program and by status of student."

Both the Alma Mater Society at UBC and the Graduate Students' Society have recently heard presentations on the tuition policy, while there will be two public forums on the policy in the next two weeks.

AMS President Ryan Marshall expressed concern at last week's council meeting that the proposed tuition structure would encourage students to choose their program based on cost.

British Columbia's Minister of Advanced Education Andrew Petter said he would like to continue the province's tuition freeze, but said the decision would not be made until the new budget is prepared.

"We've made a commitment to keep costs for students down and not to, as some other jurisdictions have, make it necessary for universities to increase tuition in order to provide adequate funding," said Petter.

Meanwhile, UBC has prepared a lobbying strategy to increase funding for post-secondary education from the provincial government.

Since revenue per student has dropped in BC in recent years, there is a substantial funding shortfall, said Brian Sullivan, vice-president (students).

"We've got to do something about this situation now," he said. "Eventually it's not going to be a question of whether you can afford to go, it's going to be a question of whether there are spaces available."

UBC's lobbying efforts, supported by the AMS, call for a 5-per-cent increase in the provincial operating grant awarded to BC universities in 2000 to 2001, which translates to roughly \$25-million. About half of this amount would go to UBC.

In addition, the university is recommending that the province provides a research grant equivalent to 15-per-cent of each federal research dollar brought into the province.

"I would point out that research does not equal high-tech," said Sullivan, who noted that humanities and social science research would also be included.

# Canada and the Final Frontier

*Students hold greater clout in space exploration*

BY SIMON RABINOVITCH

Talk of the Canadian Space Program always brings certain things to mind: the Canadarm and the handful of astronauts, such as Marc Garneau and Julie Payette, who have been part of recent NASA missions.

But while these are proud moments in the history of the program, they are only a small part of Canada's involvement in space research.

Although much is made of American and Russian ventures that have gone into space, the achievements of the Canadian Space Program are remarkable, given the relatively small amount of funding that it has received.

William MacDonald Evans, president of the Canadian Space Agency, elaborated on several current projects and looked towards the future during a lecture last Tuesday night at McGill's Thomson House.

From the earliest beginnings in space exploration, Canada has been on the cutting edge. In 1962, Canada became the third country into space with the launch of the scientific satellite Alouette-1. Today it is a leader in satellite communication with RADARSAT-1, the world's most advanced satellite for environmental monitoring. It has been used for purposes ranging from the tracking of a Japanese oil spill to the complete mapping of Antarctica for the first time.

Canada is also a major partner in the International space station that is now under construction. The two components that are in place so far - one from Russia

and the other from the US - were joined with the help of the Canadarm.

"Canada got to play its usual role of sitting between the US and Russia," joked Evans. In the laboratory that will eventually be an integral part of the space station, many experiments will be of Canadian design.

The CSA has also proven that it is a powerful force in the economy, Evans said. It accounts for over 5,000 jobs and generates more than a billion dollars in annual revenue. The federal government recognized the importance of the agency in the 1998 budget by establishing a permanent funding framework, rather than making decisions on a project-by-project basis as had been done previously. And according to Evans, this has given the CSA "confidence to begin diversifying its activities."

"Like NASA, we are starting our own faster, better, cheaper program," he explained. "Instead of placing all our eggs in one basket, we want to spread them out." Canada has been developing micro-satellites in the pursuit of this strategy.

He acknowledged that the "faster, better, cheaper" approach has caused NASA some difficulties, but claimed that the American problems were not startling.

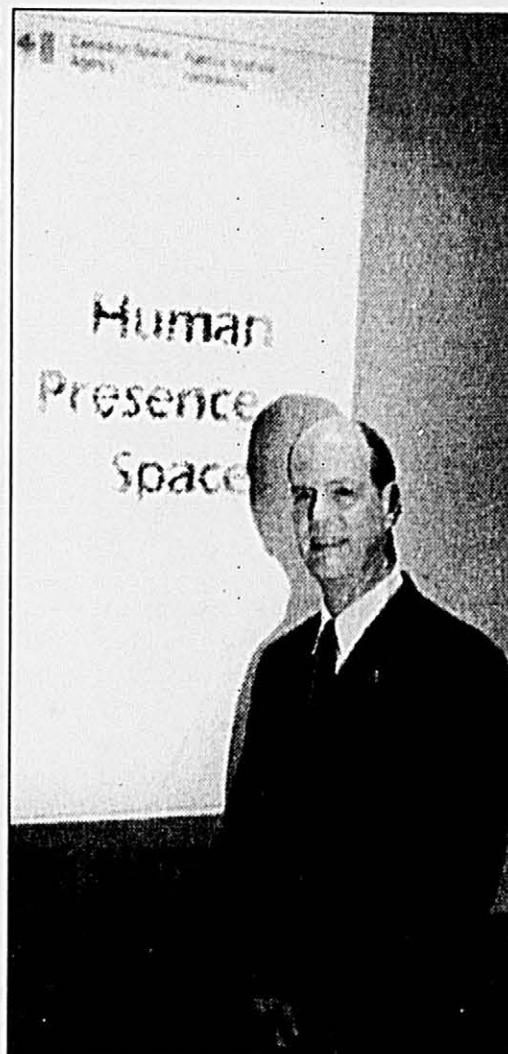
"It is reasonable to expect that there will be some successes and some failures. What is unfortunate is that two missions failed back-to-back."

Evans also presented an encouraging picture for students interested in entering a space-related career.

"You represent the youth of the nation," Evans addressed the large audience. "You are the future of the Canadian Space Program. Just about anything is possible if you go at it the right way, with the right enthusiasm."

Student participation in space activities on various fronts has burgeoned over recent years. Graduates from the International Space University have started making an impact. Evans also feels that the network of contacts made at the University will eventually "dominate space programs around the world."

According to Evans, the Third United Nations Conference on the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (UNISPACE III) took place this summer in Vienna with significant student input. The Space



CSA President William M. Evans

Generation Forum - a meeting of young delegates - occurred at the same time and produced several recommendations, some of which were adopted by UNISPACE III.

The Association for the Development of Aerospace Medicine club that organized Tuesday's lecture is another example of increasing student importance. It was recommended in Vienna that an international centre for space medicine be created. Although this has not been done yet, ADAM clubs have been founded at McGill, the University of Toronto and the University of Melbourne.

Evans believes ADAM can become "an international force, the genesis of something much, much larger." Numerous opportunities exist for graduates interested in making space their field of work, whether with a governmental agency or in the private sector. Evans told the audience that there is a definite shortage of workers with technical and scientific expertise, and people with legal, international relations and public policy knowledge are also in demand.

The best piece of advice Evans said he could offer those interested in a space career is what he dubs "the Peter Pan principal." The imagination and exuberance of young minds is a great asset to space programs around the globe.

"Don't ever grow up. Stay a youth, with youthful ideas in your head," recommended Evans.

"We at the CSA need your fresh influence. We need the youth of this country."

The Bookshelf  
will return next Thursday in  
**THE MCGILL DAILY**

"There is nothing more difficult to take in hand, more perilous to conduct, or more uncertain in its success than to take the lead in the introduction of new things"

Machiavelli

Applications are now available at the SSMU Front Desk.

They are due February 7th.

According to the Scarlet Key Honour Society, a leader is someone who:

- Goes beyond the call of duty
- Is truly committed to McGill
- Is an inspiration to others
- Demonstrates unselfishness, perseverance and creativity
- Is exceptional among his/her peers
- Has had an impact on student life
- Has implemented a new undertaking while at McGill
- Brings passion to his/her projects

For more information please contact Anne Topolski at [scarlet\\_key@hotmail.com](mailto:scarlet_key@hotmail.com) or check out our web page at [www.bam.net/scarletkey](http://www.bam.net/scarletkey)

**Scarlet Key Award 2000**



# Disunited We Stand

*Turp, Dion share their thoughts on Clarity Bill*

By TAL PINCHEVSKY

Last Friday, two of Canada's most outspoken nemeses, Stéphane Dion and Daniel Turp, took part in a discussion forum on national unity called A National Unity Talk.

A packed Leacock, Room 232, greeted Dion, who is the federal Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs and the Prime Minister's sidekick in the unity debate, and Turp, Bloc Québécois advisor, critic for international foreign affairs, and considered by

Commons can determine what constitutes a "clear majority"; and third, the secession of any province would require amendments to the constitution.

Turp, who called McGill the "pride of Quebec," was the first to address the bill. Referring to the Clarity Bill as "a severe attack on the democratic principles Quebecers rely on" and "a bill which stifles," Turp criticized the bill. He suggested it fosters the power of disallowance to the House of Commons over Quebec's National Assembly, stands in the way of freedom of

bad ones bring about worse." Turp called Bill C-20 "bad for Quebec, bad for Canada, and bad for democracy."

For his part, Dion spoke of the intense moral difficulty of reconciling democracy and secession. Dion received a lively response from the audience when he paraphrased Lucien Bouchard, calling Canada a country where "tolerance is ingrained in the national character, where all groups can assert and express themselves to realize their aspirations."

Presenting a rigid outline for federal negotiation over secession, Dion made it clear that there would be no negotiations if Quebec drafted an ambiguous referendum question.

"Separatists trying to win in confusion, cannot bring about Quebec's separation," Dion said, citing the 1995 referendum as an example.

Dion defended his Clarity Bill, arguing that its primary function was to respect the rights of Quebecers in distinguishing the appropriate size of a popular majority for negotiation. The question and answer session that followed the two parties' speeches, moderated by McGill professor Hudson Meadwell, inspired some spirited political jostling between Turp and Dion. In the end, the capacity crowd was treated to a gripping political discussion on perhaps the hottest topic in Canadian federalism.

This forum came on the heels of a story in Friday morning's National Post stating that the Bloc Québécois had stepped up a campaign against the Liberal government's legislation on secession, using Dion as a primary target. The Post's Joel-Denis Bellavance called the ploy a smear campaign aimed at undermining the federal intergovernmental affairs minister. The separatist party circulated 1.8 million flyers across the province. The flyers, entitled



Turp (right) challenges Dion (left)...

“ [Bill C-20 is] bad for Quebec, bad for Canada, and bad for democracy. ”

many to be Canada's favourite separatist.

The forum was the opening event for a weekend of activities marking the Canadian Political Science Students' Association's sixth annual conference. But Friday's discussion was dedicated to the unity debate and the recent federal Clarity Bill that has sparked tensions in federalist and separatist camps alike.

The impetus for this spirited clarity discussion was the proposal by Dion, among other federalists, of Bill C-20. Presented to the House of Commons in mid-December, the bill is described as "an act to give effect to the requirement for clarity as set out in the opinion of the Supreme Court of Canada in the Quebec Secession Reference."

The bill sets out three demands that the federal government wants met before it will consider recognizing Quebec's secession. First, that the House of Commons can determine the clarity of a referendum question; second, that the House of

political destiny, and negates the democratic principle of majority rule of 50 per cent plus one.

Turp called the Clarity Bill an undemocratic proposal already having been deprived of its legitimacy by Parliament. In his closing arguments, Turp cited Rousseau's *Social Contract*, "Good laws may lead to the making of better ones, but



Stéphane Dion

“ Separatists trying to win in confusion, cannot bring about Quebec's separation. ”



...And Dion fires back

"Stéphane Dion's Bill: Undemocratic," say that Dion "wants to change the referendum rules that everybody has accepted in 1980, 1992, and 1995 because he is afraid of losing the next referendum."

The report was largely ignored at Friday's unity discussion as the two arguing parties stuck to the issues of a potential Quebec referendum and the topic of Quebec secession.

## ISRAEL 2000... EXPERIENCE THE MAGIC

- Summer trips
- Kibbutz experiences



- Volunteer opportunities
- University options
- Internships

Find out more...

McGill University  
January 27/2000  
10am to 2pm  
Shatner Rm. 106 - 108

Cummings House  
January 31/2000  
7pm to 9pm  
1 Carré Cummings Square  
(5151 Cote St. Catherine Rd)

FINANCIAL AID  
AVAILABLE



Leesa 345-6449  
The Bronfman Israel Experience Centre



Quebec Public Interest Research Group at McGill  
**GRIP QUÉBEC PIRG**  
Groupe de recherche d'intérêt public du Québec à McGill  
**AVIS NOTICE**

Du mardi 1 février au mardi 29 février, tout/e étudiant/e voulant cesser d'être membre du GRIP-McGill devra se présenter du lundi au vendredi entre 11h et 16h au 3647, rue Université, 3e étage. L'étudiant/e devra signer un formulaire déclarant que tous ses droits de vote et droits de membre du GRIP-McGill prendront fin suite au remboursement de la somme de 3.00\$, qui sera émise par chèque. Cette somme représente les frais pour la session d'hiver 2000. Cette portion des frais scolaires contribuerait normalement à la recherche, l'éducation et l'action sur des sujets d'intérêt public menés par les étudiant/es.

From Tuesday, February 1 until Tuesday, February 29, any student wishing to relinquish membership in QPIRG-McGill must come in person to 3647 University Street, 3rd floor, from Monday through Friday between 11:00 am and 4:00 pm. Upon signing a statement relinquishing all voting and membership rights in QPIRG, the student will be sent a refund cheque in the amount of \$3.00. This amount represents the fee for the Winter 2000 semester. This portion of the student activity fee would otherwise fund student research, education and action in the public interest.

Pour de plus amples renseignements, composez le / For more info, call 398-7432 ou consultez notre site web / or consult our web site:

[ssmu.mcgill.ca/qpirg](http://ssmu.mcgill.ca/qpirg)



# The Alley to Open After 4-Month Closure

*Students lose \$6,000 for 'absolutely nothing,' says McPhee*

BY JAIME KIRZNER-ROBERTS

The Alley, the Shatner Building's basement coffee hangout, is set to open again this week after a four-month closure.

The spot's vacancy, a result of SSMU executive mismanagement, has cost the Students' Society upwards of \$6,000 in lost rental income and commissions.

"The Alley has been closed all this time for nothing," admitted SSMU vice-president Operations Kevin McPhee, who is in charge of all rental facilities in both student buildings. "It's too bad the way things worked out."

Last year, The Alley was contracted to MTY Tiki Ming, a food service provider, and grossed \$105,000, 11.5 per cent of which went to the SSMU, according to McPhee. The company indicated that they did not want to renew the contract, but McPhee did not look for another provider. The Alley has since been closed, and SSMU has lost all rental and commission income they would normally have made.

McPhee says that he didn't look for another provider because there was talk of the upstairs Gert's switching places with The Alley, which would have entailed extensive renovation. Funds for the renovation were to

come from monies received through the Cold Beverage Agreement, which he had hoped would be signed by last May – the month that his mandate to negotiate the CBA deal expired.

But McPhee admits that his hopes were "unrealistic" – negotiations for the CBA are still underway almost a year later – that he did not begin looking for a new provider even after it was clear that the CBA wouldn't be signed and that renovations were impossible.

After sitting vacant for a semester, the Alley will finally re-open under the management of Miraval.

While McPhee admits that the \$6,000 in lost revenue is unfortunate, he calls the loss a "long term investment." He hopes that the renovations will eventually occur.

"The students that used to hang out there have had nowhere to go," said McPhee. "They came to me and said, 'get The Alley open again.'"

The coffee shop was slated to open last week, but the doors remained locked, and McPhee doesn't know why.

"It was supposed to be opened last week," he said. "I don't see why it isn't open now." He hopes that it will open sometime next week.



VP Operations Kevin McPhee doesn't know what's up in The Alley

## news-briefs



### NEW FRANCOPHONE FACILITATOR

McGill's first francophone facilitator, Cathy Giulietti, started her job last week, thanks to a successful lobbying effort by french-speaking students to create the new position.

Giulietti's job will be to help francophone students acclimatize themselves to the mostly English-speaking McGill. She will organize orientation, language training, and counseling services which will cater to the 20 per cent of McGill students who speak French.

"I am here for Francophone students," said Giulietti. "I want to help ease the transition for french-speaking students into life at McGill."

Louis Philippe Messier, SSMU Francophone Commissioner, was one student involved in the lobby to create the position of French Facilitator. He thinks that French-speaking students at McGill face an array of difficulties. Not only do they often have trouble keeping up in their classes, Messier also says that French students feel alienated from their English-

speaking peers, and have trouble gaining academic information, which is often only published in English.

Messier argues that these problems contribute to the fact that French students have lower GPAs and higher dropout rates than other students.

Messier hopes that the new French Facilitator will help change all that.

"[Giulietti's] job will be to integrate French students into student life," Messier explained. "She will help them learn English so their grades won't suffer too much. She will help make orientation activities more accessible so they can participate in frosh at the beginning of the year."

French Commissioner Cathy Giulietti can be reached at 514-398-6913

— Jaime Kirzner-Roberts

### CYBERPORN INCREASING AT U OF MANITOBA

WINNIPEG (CUP) - The University of Manitoba is facing an increasing number of complaints about people viewing pornography on campus computers, says the recent annual report by the University's Equity Services Office.

Abuse of the university's email system, such as the sending of sexually harassing messages, also increased.

"We certainly have had more people phone with concerns about [these issues] this academic year than before," said Maggie Duncan, Equity Services advisor. "It's on the increase because the use of computers is on the increase."

In accordance with the university's sexual harassment policy, a complaint may be made by anyone who believes they have been sexually harassed by any member of the U of M in the course of university or university-related activities.

This includes the displaying of pornographic material within the University, says Duncan.

Policy on the use of computer facilities

also prohibits the sending of harassing or obscene messages via email. The policy warns that email abuse may result in the immediate suspension of an account for investigation and may lead to disciplinary or legal action by the university.

Investigating complaints and finding the perpetrator, however, is not always easy. Many of the complaints the Equity Services Office receives are of an informal nature, meaning they are not formally investigated.

"The people [who send harassing emails] are clever enough not to be able to be identified for the most part," said Jannine LeMere, an investigation officer.

"For the most part people send it through some other kind of address, so the problem is really in detecting who sent it."

If the University cannot find out who sent an email then they are unable to do an investigation. — Kathy Ramsey

### U OF TORONTO MAY FIRE STRIKING TAs

TORONTO (CUP) - Striking teaching assistants at the University of Toronto may not have jobs to come back to after February 4 if the university carries out its newest plan.

The plan calls for a restructuring of all classes in order to block out the 2,400 striking TAs for the rest of the year.

"I'm appalled and disgusted at this move. All of our members are strengthened by it," said Hayssam Hulays, president of Local 3902 of the Canadian Union of Public Employees.

In response, Hulays says his union is considering adding it to their unfair labour practice grievance with the university.

"Our lawyers are looking into that," he said.

The grievance was filed with the provincial labour board in late December and has already been amended to include loss of work due to cancelled courses.

On February 12, a provincial arbitrator will deliberate over whether the university has acted lawfully. If condemned, U of T will have

to pay lost wages to TAs due to cancelled courses.

"It's time for all decent people who are running the show to stand up and do something within the university," said Hulays.

Bill Graham, U of T Faculty Association president, also condemned the university's course of action.

"This is tantamount to strike-breaking and union-busting. In any work situation striking workers are allowed to go back to work when the strike is over," he said, questioning the legality of the university's move.

"Such tactics are disturbing and make the U of T look bad," he added. "The Faculty Association wants the university to go back the table and put something down immediately."

He also says that professors across campus are outraged by administration's move.

"My telephone has been ringing off the hook all day," he said. "We've had nothing but complaints. Many faculty members are offended by this unethical practice."

Hulays says the union is ready to take its own hard line.

"We are not prepared to be cowed by arbitrary action from the university. We are running ads in The Toronto Star and on the radio," he said, adding that correspondence with other unions in North America has yielded support.

Cook, however, says that the university has had no choice but to cancel and restructure courses in wake of the TA strike.

"It seems to me that the university has had no choice on spring term courses," he said of the cancelled classes.

Cook added that the university's deadline of February 4 to eliminate tutorials from courses is necessary for several reasons.

"It respects undergraduates who want to know what is going to be involved in their course workload," he said. "It gives time to instructors to discuss restructuring with their students. And it gives time to figure out a solution in bargaining." — Richard McKergow

## EVENTS

### TUESDAY, JANUARY 25

L'Ordre des Architectes du Québec will be hosting a lecture by Jennifer Corson on "Deconstruction: salvaging architecture and resources." 3:45 pm, McDonald-Harrington Building, rm. 212.

### WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26

The McGill Institute for the Study of Canada will present a lecture by Peter G. White on "How Canadians Can Become Bom-Again Federalists and Save the World." 5 pm, Leacock 232.

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 27

The Yellow Door Prose and Poetry Series continues with readings from five poets. 3625 Aylmer St., 7:30 pm. \$5.

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 29

Repercussion Theatre is holding a fundraising performance of Romeo and Juliet at 8 pm, at Les Salles de Gesu, 1200 Bleury. Tickets are \$25. Money raised will go to ongoing productions in schools and Shakespeare-in-the-Park.

### ONGOING

The Faculties of Science and Engineering are hosting a blood drive this week in the Shatner Ballroom, 3480 McTavish St. Tuesday from 10 am to 5 pm, and Wednesday through Friday from 10 am to 6 pm.

### VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Meals on Wheels needs cooks and drivers for one Thursday or one Monday a month. Call Rona at 937-9471 ext. 155.

**The Programme in Canadian Ethnic Studies**  
in affiliation with the  
**McGill Institute for the Study of Canada**  
is proud to present:

## Preservation or Appropriation?

*A discussion of the relations between Aboriginal culture(s) and Canadian museums*

### Panelists:

Greg Brass, Department of Anthropology, McGill University  
Kristin Norget, Professor, Department of Anthropology, McGill University  
Jeff Thomas, Curator, Museum of Civilization, Ottawa  
Gail Valiskakis, Director of Research, the Aboriginal Healing Foundation, Ottawa

### Moderator:

Morton Weinfeld, Professor, Department of Sociology and Chair in Canadian Ethnic Studies, McGill University

Friday, January 28, 2000  
1:30 - 3:30 p.m.  
Stephen Leacock Building  
Room 219

--- All are welcome ---

Information: Howard Ramos  
Programme in Canadian Ethnic Studies  
Tel.: 514-398-8483  
E-mail: hramos@po-box.mcgill.ca





# The Project: End of Apathy

*New club out to inform, get you involved*

BY JON WOODSIDE

If the MacLean's university poll ranked universities according to student involvement, McGill would rank rock-bottom.

McGill students may complain that their workload is too heavy, leaving little time for extra-curricular activities, or perhaps it's that the students are less political nowadays, numbed by the barrage of politics in the media. More likely however, is that McGill students look forward to occupying high-ranking positions in the future and are not willing to rock the boat now, seeing as how they will be navigating it soon.

The founders of a new SSMU student club, The Project, don't share this negative outlook. While they admit that McGill made a poor showing at the recent Concordia-organized student walk-out, they are unwilling to admit defeat.

Brad Chisholm and friend Mauricio Delfin began The Project in March 1998 because, "It's not such a desperate situation," as Chisholm said in a recent interview with The Daily. "It's not impossible to get [students involved]. We just need creative ways of getting their attention."

It is this optimism that was the primary reason for The Project winning the Best New SSMU Club Award last year. The first year was a busy one, with their hands in a

Hurricane Mitch relief project as well as organizing the Montreal segment of the International Festival for Humanity. And this year has proven to be even larger.

The Project is now collaborating with S.A.L.S.A. McGill on a project to help a women's sewing cooperative in San Lorenzo in the Oaxaca region of Mexico to get started with machines and fabric.

The Project has also worked hard to bring in groups that would otherwise not receive recognition at McGill.

The First Nations Initiative occurred in November, consisting of a day of lectures. Five speakers from Quebec came to speak at the university about the present and future of the First Nations in Canada. Other initiatives on the horizon include helping the people of Sudan and East Timor, not to mention the second annual International Festival for Humanity.

Linking together these diverse projects is the central theme to which they all are attached. "We felt something was lacking from our lives...we wanted to get involved,"

Chisholm explained. The Project's mission statement best sums up its raison d'être. "The Project", it says, "has been acting as a

parties, or through the arts, The Project's main endeavour is to get the word out that there is plenty students can do to improve the global situation.

"We are a top university, [with] resources at our fingertips...Then why aren't students aware of what is happening in the world?" Chisholm asked. "[Too many groups] have become politically stagnant, focused on partying. We want to get them more politically minded," he added.

The Project is about getting students aware of what is going on around them and the rest of the world. By extension, many of the issues The Project covers are definitely newsworthy but remain in obscurity. As an example, Chisholm mentioned the

civil war in Sudan, which has torn the country apart and has been intensified by a brutal famine. "The civil war [in Sudan] has been totally forgotten, [and] we want people to question, why isn't it on the front page? Why isn't it important?" he asked.

Chisholm and Delfin admit they had "fallen into the McGill mold," mainly because "nothing reflected what we wanted to do." With The Project however, organizations and individuals can be assisted by obtaining contacts and starting their own ideas.

A sort of volunteer middleman, Chisholm is convinced that students want to get involved. "We can get them the information, contacts, and anything so that they no longer have an excuse for not being involved. If they choose not to, it won't be because it was too hard."

*Battle apathy by getting involved. The Project's offices are on the fourth floor of the Shatner Building.*



*The Project meeting: Why aren't you in this picture?*

support group for many clubs. The have a desire to become active in the International Community." Their ultimate goal is to, "promote international understanding and global awareness," and to, "create an environment in which they can learn about the actual situation, contribute, and see the results."

"When we do use creative ways instead of just giving up...people begin to realize that these things are important and that [changes] can happen," Chisholm explained. Whether it is through fund-raising projects,

The McGill Institute for the Study of Canada presents...

*The James R. Mallory Annual Lecture in Canadian Studies  
in honour of Professor James R. Mallory, retired political scientist  
and pioneer in Canadian Studies at McGill University*

## Peter G. White

Peter G. White (B.A., McGill, '60; LL.L., U. Laval, '63) is Executive Vice President of The Ravelston Corporation and of Argus Corporation, and a director of Hollinger Inc., UniMedia Inc., Southam Inc., Telesystem Ltd., Teleglobe Inc., Proprietary Energy Industries Inc. and Cinram International. He is Chairman of the Institute for Research in Public Policy (IRPP). He is active in the movement to create a viable alternative to the Liberal Party of Canada as Canada's federal government, and was a member of the Steering Committee for the United Alternative Convention. He has held several important positions within the Progressive Conservative Party of Canada, was the publisher of *Saturday Night* and the founding chairman of the Public Policy Forum.

*"How Canadians Can Become Born-Again  
Federalists and Save the World"*

Wed., January 26, 2000

5:00 - 6:30 pm

free admission

Room 232  
Leacock Building  
McGill University

McGill Institute for the Study of Canada / L'Institut d'études canadiennes de McGill  
3463 Peel Street, Montreal (QC) H3A 1W7 www.arts.mcgill.ca/programs/misc  
For more information, contact: L. Darroch at (514) 398-2658  
or ldarroch@leacock.lan.mcgill.ca

McGill

Sexual Assault Centre of McGill Students' Society

## Fire With Water

### Call for Submissions

- ❖ Fire with Water is a free, bilingual publication containing prose, poetry, and visual art pertaining to sexual assault
- ❖ Fire with Water acts as a forum for survivors of sexual assault and their supporters
- ❖ All submissions, French or English, are welcome
- ❖ Submissions can be dropped off:
  - in the box in the foyer of the Shatner Student Centre at 3480 McTavish
  - in the box in the SACOMSS office in Rm. 5200 of the new Brown Student Services Centre at 3600 McTavish
  - or mailed to: SACOMSS, University Centre  
3480 McTavish, Montreal, PQ  
H3A 1X9
- Deadline for Submissions is:  
**FRIDAY, MARCH 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2000**

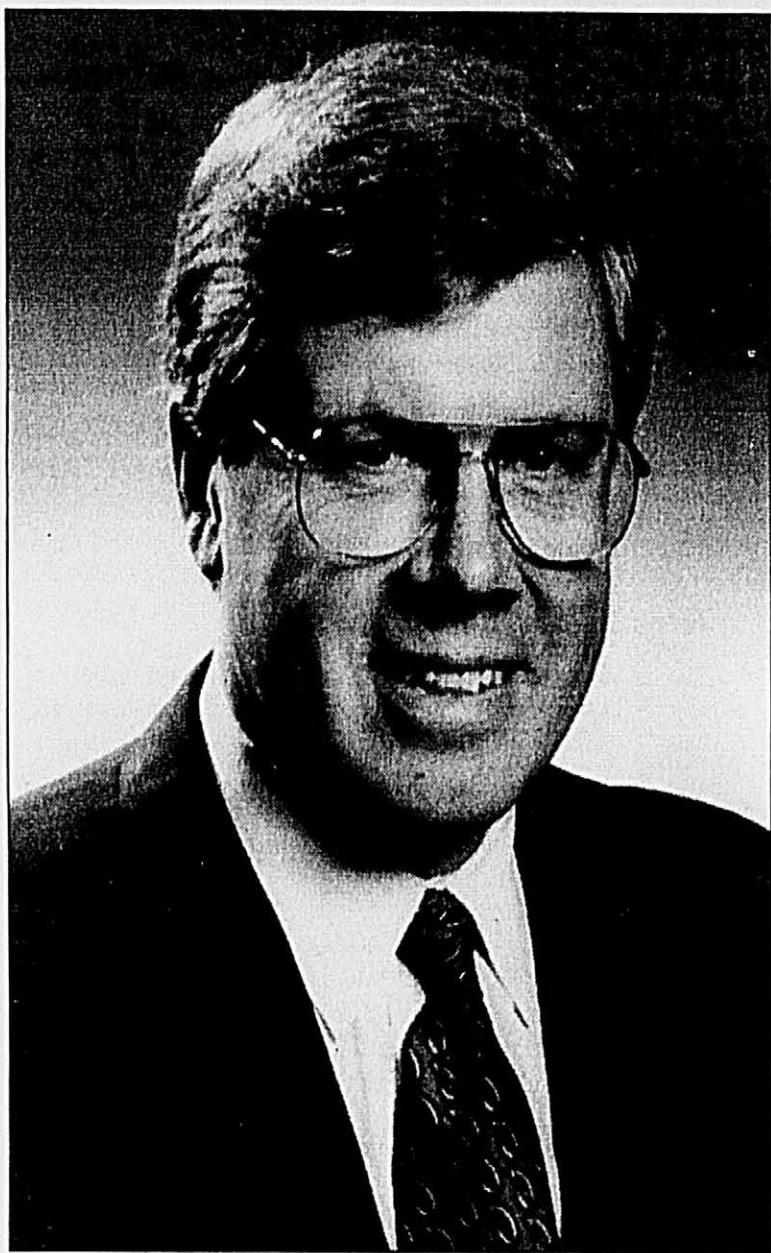
**FITNESS LIFE GYM**  
CENTRE DOWNTOWN  
EXCLUSIVELY FOR WOMEN

12 months  
\$99.00 + taxes  
Reg \$329.00

Monday to Friday 7am - 9pm  
Saturday & Sunday 10am - 6pm

372 Ste. Catherine W. Suite 102 (514) 871-1111





## Royal Bank CEO John Cleghorn

### A SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Very few people can say they have a past as picture-perfect as John Cleghorn. Business journalists and gossip columnists try hard to dig up dirt on the CEO and chairman of the Royal Bank, and always come out empty-handed.

Cleghorn is a classic businessman, backed up with all the credentials. Born in Montreal, Cleghorn went to McGill and graduated with BCom in 1962. While at McGill, he played centre on the Redmen football team as a centre and was drafted by the Toronto Argonauts. He then articulated to become a Chartered Accountant, and was reportedly studying for his CA exams in a Quebec monastery with Dick Pound, his classmate, former Olympian and current chair of McGill's Board of Governors. Cleghorn started his career as a sugar trader for St. Lawrence Sugar, but quickly moved to join Citibank in New York City and rose quickly to the position of Western regional vice-president in his early thirties. In 1974, he changed jobs again, in search of more international work and began climbing the rungs of the Royal Bank ladder. In 1996, he became CEO and Chairman of the bank. He made \$6.7-million last year in salary and compensation.

Cleghorn has been described as a classic banker, both in and out of his public life. A famous anecdote tells of how he granted loans to his children for university and required repayment with interest. McGill has always been the focus of Cleghorn's philanthropy. In 1991, he was recruited as chairman of the McGill Twenty-First Century Fund. The fundraising campaign ended in 1996, raising \$205-million. Along with his wife Pattie Cleghorn, the two established the Pattie Cleghorn Fund in Diabetes Research at the Polypeptide Hormone Laboratory at McGill.

In 1996, McGill created a \$1.5-million John Cleghorn Chair in Management Studies "in gratitude for his dedication."

-Jason Chow

# Senate Denies Honorary Degree

*Minority blocks Royal Bank head's nomination*

BY BEN ERRETT AND JON BRICKER

Royal Bank Chair and CEO and long-time McGill benefactor John Cleghorn was turned down for an honorary doctorate by Senate during confidential session last week in an embarrassing decision for university administration, The McGill Daily has learned.

Senate's consideration of Cleghorn was leaked to The Daily under the condition of anonymity. Engineering senator Anjalie Mishra later confirmed the Senate decision.

Cleghorn's name sparked ire when it was first raised at Senate, just days after a report that the Royal Bank had plans to layoff 6,000 employees.

The motion to award Cleghorn the degree first came up on December 9 in a confidential session on honorary doctorates. A motion to reconsider in last Wednesday's meeting sparked heated debate. Opponents of the move questioned Royal Bank's policies of layoffs and stake in the student debt crisis despite high profits. They condemned the degree as a implicit reward for such practices.

The final vote was overwhelmingly in favour of giving Cleghorn the degree, but a 65-year-old McGill statute that requires only seven senators to oppose granting a degree blocked a decision to confer the doctorate. Differing reports have between seven and eight senators opposing the motion at last week's meeting. Between three and four of the opposing votes were cast by student members. It was also reported that SSMU president Andrew Tischler and VP University Affairs Xavier Van Chau both voted in favour of granting the degree.

Upon learning that Cleghorn was being considered, many questioned McGill's deep-rooted connections to Royal Bank, as well as the highly secretive honorary-degree nominating processes that have created backlash at several other Canadian universities in recent years.

Students, faculty, and banking reform advocates responded to the news with disgust.

"If the university thinks they'd be giving a degree to someone who is a good corporate citizen, they're wrong," said Duff Conacher, a coordinator for Democracy Watch and a member of the Canadian Community Reinvestment Coalition, social advocacy groups that study the role of the Canadian banks. "The banks are using donations to buy our support and applause."

"I wouldn't be very happy to be graduating with him," said a surprised Mike Leitold, head of QPIRG's Corpwatch working group.

Mishra, the lone senator commenting publicly on last week's decision, agreed. "We need to preserve the role of the univer-

sity as a social critic. A sponsorship of Royal Bank would compromise that," she said. "There was concern at last council meeting that this would look like an endorsement for the Royal Bank."

But Principal Shapiro denied any special ties with Royal Bank.

"They're treated like thousands of other donor relationships," he said on Friday. He denied that McGill was in the business of bestowing honours in exchange for donations.

"What we never do is discuss honorary degrees with someone with whom we're discussing a donation.... The two are kept quite separate," he said, adding that McGill views its relationships with Cleghorn and Royal Bank separately.

"But the [honorary degree] selection criteria do enable the committee to consider honorary degrees for someone who's been a big benefactor to the university."

Shapiro refused to comment on Wednesday's confidential session.

But Physics professor Shaun Lovejoy suggested that the mere consideration of conferring degrees on the likes of multi-millionaire financial sector elites could give the impression that doctorates were up for sale.

"My immediate response is that it doesn't look good.... I'd be surprised to learn he's made a contribution of real note," said Lovejoy. "Giving it in a way that even raises suspicion of a payoff is not a good idea."

This week was not the first time honorary degrees have set off protest at Canadian universities in recent years. University of Victoria bowed to pressure to deny Bill Gates an honorary degree last year, while in 1997, a University of Toronto decision to confer a degree on former US president and CIA head George Bush led to massive protest, with many linking the convocation to a sizeable donation to the university by Peter Munk, Bush's longtime friend and business associate.

Last week, many pointed to an extensive list of links between McGill and Royal Bank and wondered whether Cleghorn's stake at McGill and the numerous campus programs named for him made the Royal Bank head a little too close for comfort.

In 1994, the bank shelled out \$2-million for McGill's 21st Century Campaign, a fundraising drive which Cleghorn headed. Royal also oversees all of the school's banking, campus ATM services, as well as the Royal Bank Visa Affinity Card, a credit card program that contributes money to McGill and features a card depicting McGill's stately Arts building and McGill and Royal Bank logos side-by-side.

Conacher believes honoring financial sector leaders like Cleghorn shows that

universities are bending over backwards to court the corporate likes of Royal Bank, despite their role for in mass layoffs and the student debt crisis.

"The rules of partnerships between universities and corporations are not strong enough to stop serious conflicts of interest," he said.

"Banks actively discriminate against people with low incomes, especially students."

"No one's a saint," Shapiro said of the honorary degree process in general. "I don't make any attempt with any corporation to look into their entire moral life," he said.

But Conacher says the big banks' philanthropic records aren't as glowing as they might seem. While the big six banks reported \$7.5-billion in profits and \$90-billion in revenues last fiscal year, only about \$70-million were spent on donation, about 0.08 per cent of revenues, Conacher said.

Last year Royal Bank reported \$1.73-billion in profits, and according to a report earlier this month, Cleghorn took home \$6.7-million in salary, stock options, compensation, and bonuses in 1999. Another report late last year also revealed Royal Bank's plans to begin laying off 6,000 employees.

"There's a community of interest between administration and these business people," said Lovejoy, pointing to similar efforts by the university, including staff cuts since Shapiro was hired on, and administration's support for privatization, which Lovejoy sees evidenced in last year's *Tradition and Innovation* discussion paper and the recent McGill College International proposal.

He also said Wednesday's vote should send a message to students that they need to question the effectiveness of student leaders. While Mishra joined post-grad reps Stephen Déry and Robert Sim in opposition to conferring the degree, according to sources, SSMU reps Andrew Tischler and Xavier Van Chau both supported the motion.

"If I was a student, I'd be wondering who's side they're on," Lovejoy said.

"To get in the good graces of these people...that's the sort of motive that comes to mind. I can't see why else they'd support it," he continued.

Tischler and Van Chau refused to comment on Wednesday's vote. A call to their SSMU offices prompted a visit from the two to The Daily offices, where the executives suggested The Daily not proceed with the story, lest it jeopardize student membership on Senate.

"The Daily should not run this," Tischler said.

He added on the subject of the leak, "A senator has broken an understanding here."



# The Arcane Statute That Let it Happen

BY BEN ERRETT

Seven votes was all it took to thwart McGill Administration's plans to give Royal Bank CEO John Cleghorn an honorary degree in Senate. This tiny opposition on a Senate that consists of nearly 80 members has been a part of McGill's statutes since the turn of the century.

"When the policy was developed, it meant you required a three-quarters majority to confer an honorary degree," said Principal Bernard Shapiro, adding that he is neither for or against the regulation.

Graduate student senator Robert Sim was stronger in his opinion of the statute.

"That policy is out of date and needs to be changed," Sim said.

It is believed that there are plans to change the regulation so that such a situation cannot occur again.

"They'd talk about changing the rules of Senate to accommodate him?" asked an amazed Physics Professor Shaun Lovejoy upon hearing that such a move may be planned. If such a move did occur, it would be the third time the University will have brought up this motion. Engineering Senator Anjali Mishra doubted the political wisdom of such a move and said that the chances of it happening were slim.

The provision was referred to at least as early as 1908, in which it stated that such a degree "shall not be ordered, if as many as

five members of the Corporation vote against it." Before 1934, The Corporation of McGill functioned as the Senate does today. In 1923, the statute said that "no such honorary degree shall be granted if as many as ten members of Corporation vote against it."

Upon the creation of Senate in 1934, the statute was changed to its present form. As Article 13.2.2 of McGill's Statutes now reads "no honorary degree shall be granted if seven members of the Senate shall vote against it." At the time of its inception, the vote of seven members represented approximately a quarter of Senate members.

Though recipients of honorary degrees in the past have ranged from ex-Prime Minister John Diefenbaker to United Nations Secretary Dag Hammarskjöld, the practice has long been a controversial topic. As far back as 1871, McGill graduates asked for a prohibition of honorary degree. In that same year, the Faculty of Arts moved to have no honorary degrees without the consent of the faculty in which the degree was earned. This eventually led to the establishment of special honorary degrees. The degrees include Doctor of Divinity, Doctor of Laws, Doctor of letters, Doctor of Music and Doctor of Science. It is believed that Cleghorn was in the running for either Doctor of Laws, which is awarded for exceptional service to the University as well as outstanding scholarly achievement in law.

## Gates, Jiang, Bush... Now Cleghorn?

*Honorary Degrees Have Sparked Furor in Past*

BY JASON CHOW

Every university convocation gives at least one honorary degree. However, many a universities' choice for celebrated citizen-of-the-year has angered in the past.

McGill's recent closed-door discussion about the Royal Bank CEO John Cleghorn's nomination for next June's convocation was protested by vocal students and faculty alike.

Other Canadian universities have also been embroiled in similar controversies.

Most recently, Bill Gates was snubbed from the glory of the honorary degree last October. The University of Victoria Senate did not give the required two-thirds majority necessary to approve the nomination. Gates would have been slated to accept the degree in June.

Similar to last week's McGill Senate meeting, the discussion about Gates was held behind closed-doors. However, an anonymous source leaked the story to The Globe and Mail, creating a media frenzy.

Some UVic senators thought that his business practices as leader of Microsoft were unethical while other believed that he had made a great philanthropic contribution to society.

UVic was in another similar controversy in August 1997 when an anonymous

student senator leaked the news that UVic's senate had approved an honorary degree for Chinese president Jiang Zemin, prompting a backlash from students who questioned his human rights record.

Jiang's opponents linked him to the 1989 Tiananmen Square massacre and other human rights abuses.

The university was left in an embarrassing position and in the face of such opposition, the Chinese president declined the offer, blaming his no-show on scheduling concerns.

In November 1997, the University of Toronto gave former US president George Bush an honorary degree despite great protest from students. The honorary degree committee and the U of T governors gave unanimous support in a closed session council meeting.

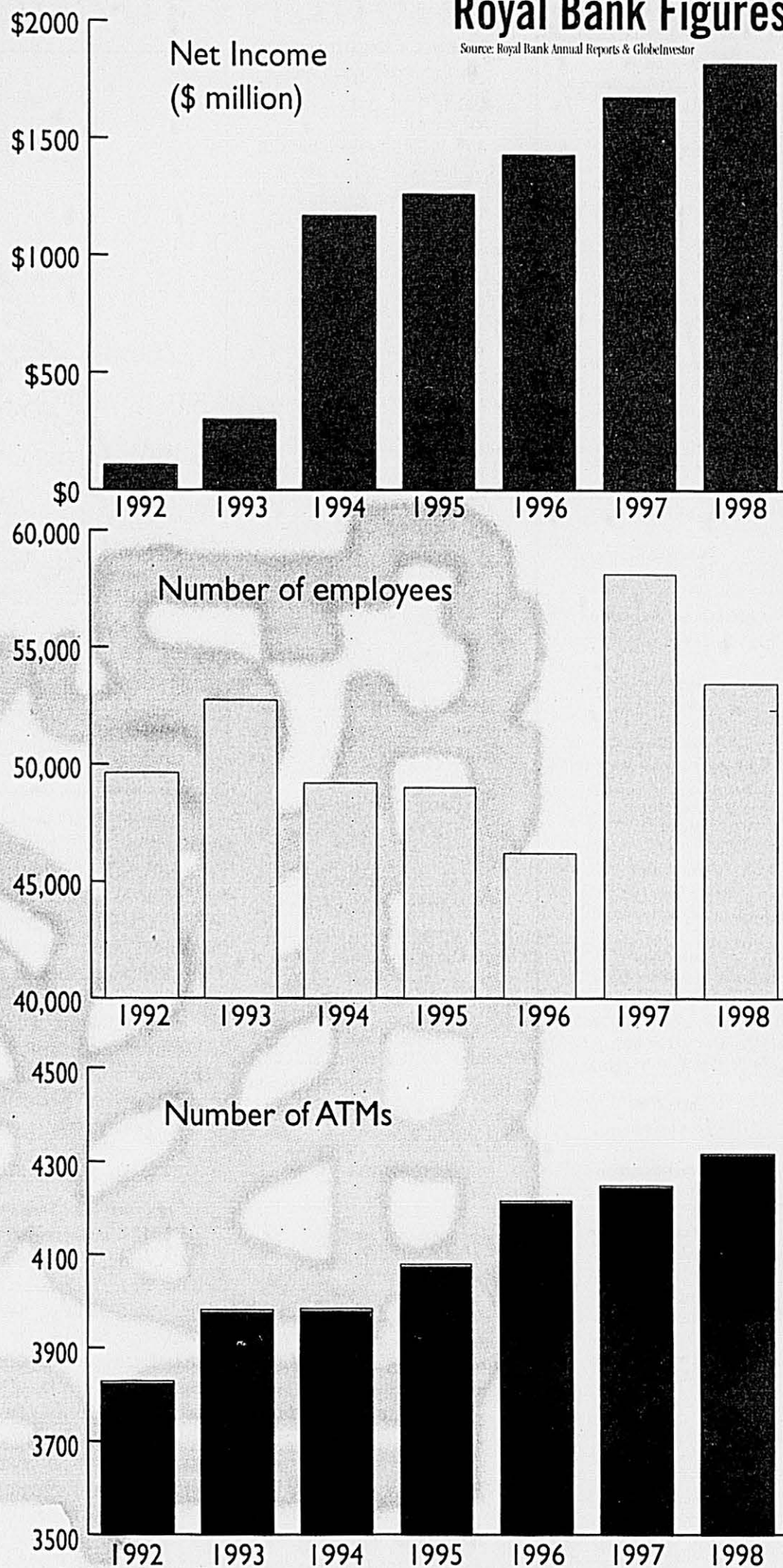
The university went ahead and gave the degree despite an estimated 1000 protesters outside the ceremony. During the ceremony, over 30 faculty dressed in full academic gowns stood up and walked out of the ceremony. Leading them was prominent U of T scientist Ursula Franklin.

Bush joked during his acceptance speech that the protest outside reminded him of "happy hour at the Baghdad Ramada Inn."

*-With files from The Varsity*

## Royal Bank Figures

Source: Royal Bank Annual Reports & GlobalInvestor



## Royal Bank and McGill

BY BEN ERRETT

All McGill bank accounts are held with the Royal Bank, but the connection goes much further than that. Royal Bank is linked with many facets of the university, from teaching awards to their executives. A sampling of the affiliations:

- John McCallum left his post as Dean of Arts to become chief economist for the Royal Bank in 1994.

- Royal Bank's Executive Vice-President of Strategic Investment Don S. Wells is chair of the Patient Services

Steering Committee at the McGill University Health Centre.

- The Canada-China Financial Services Development Project, a program which is organized by the Faculty of Management, Royal Bank and Great West Life, trains senior Chinese banking executives.

- The Royal Bank gave \$1-million to the McGill Centre for University Teaching and Learning. Of this money, \$60,000 is awarded annually as the Teaching and Learning Improvement Fund, which rewards "the development of improved methods or curriculum"

- The John Cleghorn Chair of Management Studies is a \$1.5-million endowment currently held by Henry Mintzberg.

- McGill's 1996 Phone-a-thon was done in Royal Bank's offices.

- McGill's fundraising alumni relations office in Toronto is located in the Royal Bank Plaza on 200 Bay Street.

- The Royal Bank McGill Visa card, which is sold on campus and features the McGill crest and the Arts Building on its face claims that "a portion of every purchase you make is directed to McGill."



**editorial offices:**  
3480 McTavish St., Rm. B-03, Montreal QC  
H3A 1X9  
phone: 514.398.6781, fax: 514.398.8318  
email: mcgilldaily@hotmail.com

**business and advertising office:**  
3480 McTavish St., Rm. B-07, Montreal QC  
H3A 1X9  
phone: 514.398.6790, fax: 514.398.8318

**co-ordinating editor:**  
JASON CHOW

**co-ordinating news editor:**  
BEN ERRETT

**news editors:**  
JON BRICKER, JAIME KIRZNER-ROBERTS

**culture editor:**  
GAÏE FLORES

**features editor:**  
TAL PINCHESKY

**production and design editors:**  
SALLY WARNER, JAMES YAP

**copy editor:**  
ZACH DUBINSKY

**photo editors:**  
CÉLINE HEINBECKER, PIERRE-ALAIN PARFOND

**office manager:**  
MARK EATON

**contributors:**  
SIMON RABINOVITCH, GILBERT O'YOUNG, MICHEL  
HELLMAN, HOLLY GAUTHIER-FRANKEL, AVI GRAMMER

**cover design:**  
BEN ERRETT, SALLY WARNER, ZACHISKY, GAÏE  
FLORES, JAMES YAP

**what's the answer?:**  
IN THAT CASE, WHAT'S THE QUESTION?

**défil français:**  
JULIEN LAPLANTE

**business manager:**  
MARIAN SCHRIER

**assistant business manager:**  
PIERRE CROWLEY

**advertising management:**  
SASHA DECHENE, BORIS SHEDOV

**advertising layout and design:**  
CAMERON CAMPBELL

All contents © 2000 Daily Publications Society.  
All rights reserved. The content of this newspaper  
is the responsibility of The McGill Daily and does  
not necessarily represent the views of McGill  
University or the Students' Society of McGill  
University. Products or companies advertised in  
this newspaper are not necessarily endorsed by  
The Daily's staff.

Printed by Payette & Simms, Montreal, Quebec.  
The Daily is a founding member of the Canadian  
University Press and Presse étudiante du Québec.

Printed on 20% recycled paper.  
Please recycle this newspaper.  
ISSN 1192-4608

Subscriptions to The Daily are available for \$60 a  
year (70 issues), or \$30 for half a year.

The McGill Daily welcomes letters to the  
editor and comments from readers on our  
new expanded commentary pages. Letters  
should be under 300 words, while Hyde Parks  
should be less than 500 words.

Please drop off submissions in  
Skinner B-03 or email them to  
mcgilldaily@hotmail.com. The Daily  
reserves the right to edit for length, clarity,  
and possible libellous or offensive content.

# "The Daily Should Not Run This"

"What good is going to come of this?"  
"The Daily should not run this."  
They warned us.  
And we ran it.

If The McGill Daily were run by SSMU,  
today's story on Senate's consideration of  
John Cleghorn for an honorary doctorate  
would never have come to light. Period.  
Members of SSMU who sit on the Senate  
paid a visit to The Daily offices on Friday  
night to warn of possible repercussions  
against students if the story ran.

As a student newspaper, we believe that  
we have the responsibility to inform the  
community. We are not easily intimidated  
by administration – neither that of SSMU  
or McGill. The McGill community has a  
right to know, therefore, The Daily tells.

When we found out about the tiny  
margin by which this doctorate was  
blocked, we realized that it was neces-  
sary to let the university know how con-  
tentious this issue had proved for the  
university. This issue touches many of  
the most pressing issues of our time.  
How much corporate involvement is too  
much? What is expected in return?  
Where are the limitations to infringe-  
ments upon the university's role as  
social critic?

What about the thousands of students  
buried in debt by a creditor-friendly loan  
system?

How will those faced with the reality of  
corporate downsizing feel when they final-  
ly leave school and see the unsympathetic,  
heartless man behind it all heralded by  
McGill as a "great citizen" with an hon-  
orary degree?

The business ethics of the entire  
Canadian banking empire and Royal  
Bank's all-too-close relationship with  
McGill raises doubts about how worthy he  
is to the institution.



The point was raised that this could  
hurt John Cleghorn. Well, the thousands  
he has laid off have been hurt too. The  
repercussions for his move have been  
negligible; rather, his corporation has  
enjoyed record profits.

That SSMU would concern itself with  
Cleghorn's potential embarrassment at  
being rejected and not that of the thou-  
sands of students reduced kneeling, arms  
outstretched at the doorsteps (and mercy)  
of Bay Street gives rise to questions of what  
our student leaders are doing.

What's more, why is it that our lead-  
ers are so quick to all but threaten legal  
action and suggest that running the  
story could jeopardize "the opportunity  
of students to represent themselves"?  
This leads to the irony. Their message  
was that they are not there to represent  
students before the university's most  
important academic body, and The Daily  
ought not to report on their failure to do  
so. What a surprising thing to hear.

At one point, Andrew Tischler told the  
reporters involved that printing the story

would be like a case in New York City in  
which a woman was beaten to death while  
hundreds of bystanders looked on, not  
raising a finger. On the contrary, Andrew.  
We want the bystanders, those complicit in  
our university's effort to honour the likes  
of banking giants like John Cleghorn at  
last week's Senate meeting, to be con-  
demned. We want them to be known for  
their failure to represent students. It is for  
this reason that The McGill Daily's editor-  
ial board voted unanimously to run the  
story.



**20 years ago:** Around a hun-  
dred placard-carrying pro-  
testers took to the streets  
outside the Montreal offices of Aeroflot to  
decry the intervention of Soviet troops in  
Afghanistan. The protest, organized by the  
Marxist-Leninist group "In the Struggle,"  
went off without a hitch. The Daily report-  
ed that protesters yelled out "Free the peo-  
ple of Afghanistan," and "Support the bat-  
tle of the Iranian people!"

In other news, The Daily reported that  
the Université de Québec à Montréal want-  
ed to secede from the network of provincial  
universities, which includes the Université  
de Québec à Chicoutimi and the Université  
de Québec à Trois-Rivières. UQAM's  
administrative council cited greater auton-  
omy to manage its affairs and create and  
approve new programs as incentives to  
secede.

**40 years ago:** Professor Eric  
William Kierans, director of  
McGill's School of  
Commerce, was appointed president of the  
Montreal Stock Exchange and the  
Canadian Stock Exchange, The Daily  
reported. Kierans founded Canadian  
Adhesives Ltd. in 1945 before joining McGill  
as a full professor in 1953. Also in the news,  
the new engineering building received two  
fresh faces: females and an analog comput-  
er used to solve physical problems that rely  
on mathematical modelling.

**60 years ago:** The Daily  
reported that Adolf Hitler's  
nephew, William Patrick  
Hitler, an Englishman, deplored his uncle's  
party, its ideology, and its actions.  
"Hitlerism means anarchy and retrogres-  
sion," the German dictator's nephew said  
to an audience at the Monument National  
Theatre. "The Allies are fighting the cause  
of human civilization, and I am thank-  
ful." An editorial in The Daily lamented  
the declining quality of journalism during  
the war. "Admittedly, the country is at war,"  
the editorial read. "But surely the press  
doesn't have to degenerate into a state  
where every edition is merely a collection  
of 'scare-heads,' atrocity stories about the  
enemy, and propaganda stories intended to  
build up morale."

## Daily staff elections

will be held on  
**Thursday, January 27th.**  
The positions to be opened are:

- **co-ordinating culture editor**
- **culture editor (x 2)**
- **online editor**

**Candidates must be Daily staff to run. All  
students who have contributed six (6)  
stories/pictures and/or three features  
and/or six 3-hour units of production  
work in the past year qualify as staff.  
Please see an editor for details.  
Good luck and Godspeed!**

THE MCGILL DAILY



# Defying Conventional Wisdom

BY AVI CRAIMER

The idea of conventional wisdom is perhaps the most important concept for an inquisitive university student to grasp. It explains why it is necessary for students to constantly challenge the material they are taught in their courses.

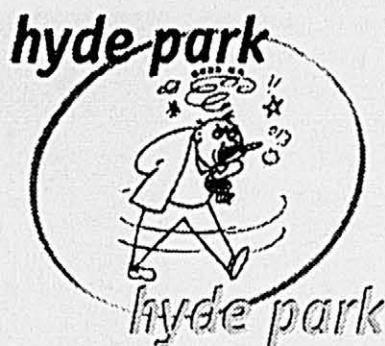
University professors have an air of irrefutability that can coerce students into a mindset of blind acceptance. This is because despite being very well educated and intelligent people, too many professors are caught in the trap of conventional wisdom.

(For further discussion of this topic I direct interested students towards Chapter 2 of John Kenneth Galbraith's classic, *The Affluent Society*.)

In subjects with any kind of sociological significance there is a relation between real world events and the ideas put forward to interpret them. This means that within a certain degree of plausibility, people can hold very divergent interpretations on the same set of research.

This difference of opinion is not caused by one side having more accurate data than the other or even a better understanding of the subject matter. Rather, divergent views are caused by an ongoing struggle between those ideas that have actual relevance to the world we live in and those that continue to exist only because they are commonly recognized as valid by society.

Most people support things that are familiar to them. What is socially acceptable is seen as being synonymous with what is socially beneficial. This makes it very difficult to propagate truly original ideas, even if those new ideas do a better job of explaining and directing the current state of human society. A great many university professors, politicians, and journal-



*In the first of a series of articles, a student takes a critical look at the institutionalization of academic thought*

ists choose to throw support behind these acceptable ideas because they know that doing the accepted thing is what will gain them tenure, win elections, and get a front page story.

In contrast, making a real inquiry of the nature of their subject leads to ridicule from peers and popular discontent. The massive institutional support for the status quo causes ideas to be perpetuated in the popular consciousness long after they have become obsolete. This mass of obsolete but well-supported "knowledge" is called conventional wisdom.

It is important to realize that the conventional wisdom does not describe the position of a particular school of thought. For example, both right wing and left wing political parties function under the current conventional wisdom of political and economic theory. They may diverge in their slant on this conventional wisdom, but ultimately the NDP and Reform parties stick to the same familiar structure of thought. Any free thinker who would dare suggest something wholly original is condemned as a subversive element.

These very elements however are the single most powerful force in creating a new ideological structure that is better equipped to deal with the current state of human knowledge.

The world of academia is supposed to be one of cutting edge research and brilliant scholarship. Yet, all too often this research takes the form of elaborate mental juggling. Professors struggle to explain new phenomena in increasingly complex ways using the framework of an outdated conventional structure.

This serves to build up an intimidating wall of scholarship around the conventional wisdom lending it an almost mystical quality. Any student with an original idea who tries to brave this intellectual briar patch is made to feel as if their problems with the conventional wisdom are simply due to a lack of understanding.

Despite the difficulties associated with fighting for new ideas it is essential that as university students we take every opportunity to be challenge existing academic structures. Reading your course textbooks will tell you nothing about potential prob-

lems with the theory you are learning. To bring about real change we must seek out answers ourselves.

Discussion with other students is essential and such discourse must incorporate sources that are not found in any course pack. Finding good sources of original thought can be difficult at times. However, in this information age, a little effort at checking out recent books, magazines, and web sites leads to an amazing amount of accessible revolutionary information.

If you are taking a course in a subject that you feel strongly about, go out and discover what the real world has to say about it. Then, if you become fed up with the outdated theoretical models that your professors try to pass off as knowledge, do something about it.

Conventional wisdom will stand only until people make an effort to debunk it. Don't be afraid to ask tough questions in lectures and conferences. Visit your professor during office hours and riddle them with problems that they will not be able to provide satisfactory answers to. Write articles for the student newspapers, put informational posters on the door to your classroom, start discussion groups and plan student-run teach-ins.

Many ideological revolutions have been sparked by a handful of dedicated university students. Not only will this activity contribute to the good of society but it also makes your university experience a hell of a lot more fun!

Stay tuned for columns challenging some examples of blatantly obsolete ideologies being taught here at McGill.

*Avi Cruimer is a UO Arts student studying politics and music. He appreciates constructive criticism and can be reached at socialchange@soon.com.*



YAP OMITS KEY CHAPTERS INFO

Re: Run Bookstore For Students, Not Profit (Jan.17) – I am sad to see such a lack of journalistic research on the part of Mr. Yap in his article "Run Bookstore For Students, Not Profit."

By asking a Chapters employee, I found out what Mr. Yap did not present in his article on the bookstore prices: all books offered for sale at the Chapters website ([www.chapters.ca](http://www.chapters.ca)) are cheaper than those purchased from a Chapters location store.

What Mr. Yap did not inform us – and the Chapters employee did tell me – is that books purchased over the internet are mailed directly to the purchaser and shipping costs do apply.

For purchases under \$35, there is a basic fee and a charge depending on the weight of the book(s). For purchases over \$35, shipping is free – an incentive to buy more, of course. Depending on the price of the textbook that you wish to purchase, it just might be cheaper to order over the internet and not even have to leave your room.

I support Mr. Yap's opinion that textbook prices should be lower because the students are already paying enough. Presentation of your McGill ID card would dissuade some of those people wishing to get the cheaper prices. Why should the students be the ones that pay the price for an education that benefits the rest of society?

*Dalila Seckar  
Macdonald Campus*

## Productivity Crisis Hits Hard – in Third World

Last time we looked at an economic trend that could eventually cripple the world's economies.

We saw that as the economies of the West invented new technologies, they were able to produce goods much more efficiently. But we also saw that, starting some time in the 1920s, the service sector began to outgrow the goods producing sector, until services accounted for 70 per cent of Western economic production by 1990.

The combination of the decline in goods production and the non-progressivity of most services – a technical way of saying that services such as education, retail, government, and travel cannot inherently become more efficient – spelled doom for the productivity of the West.

To be sure, the power of computers still doubles every 18 months, for example. But that doesn't mean our productivity follows suit. Rather, our successive productivity gains get smaller and smaller.

In the Middle Ages, standard of living – a catchword roughly synonymous with productivity – increased so little that most people had no notion of progress, or even time.

Conversely modern Western society

can't stand stagnant productivity. Our entire economic outlook depends on modest and consistent year-over-year growth. Just think how every time inflation in Canada threatens to fall outside its 1 per cent to 3 per cent "target range," the stock market goes ballistic. Or better, look at the recent bombardment of neoliberal angst calling for reduced taxes on the rich, massive economic deregulation, and the transformation of education into training in order to combat what the Conference Board of Canada calls "the productivity slowdown."

Now, the West can't squeeze substantially more productivity out of its technology, and nor can its privileged rich force big enough concessions from workers, who nevertheless have by some estimates experienced declining real income since 1980.

But it can look elsewhere for cheap labour, and elsewhere did it go – to the 80 per cent of the world that remains un- or under-developed to this day; to China, Indonesia, and Mexico, where daily wages run as low as \$2.40 for 12 hours of work, an 80-hour, seven-day work week is the norm, and workers are severely fined for refusing to work up to 12 hours overtime.

The overwhelming trend is alarmingly clear. From 1980 to 1993, the United States, Australia, Britain, Finland, and Germany have lost between 30 per cent and 70 per cent of textile, clothing, and footwear industry jobs. But in Mauritius, Indonesia, Malaysia, China, and the Philippines, the number of such jobs has increased by between 30 per cent and 344 per cent.

MERELY MUSING



ZACHSKY

Some laissez-faire liberals argue that the Third World's experience is a natural step in an evolution towards industrialization. They point out the similarly horrid labour conditions that existed in France and Britain in the mid-1800s, and claim that the developing world is experiencing "industrialization pangs."

There's a big difference, though. When

the West industrialized, it didn't have Big Brother looking over its shoulder to ensure that wages stayed low and labour standards remained poor. The United States didn't undermine the Labour government that Britons elected in 1924 – it had its own unions to deal with. But half a century later, it supported dictatorships in El Salvador, Chile, and Guatemala that promised to keep wages down so US citizens could continue to enjoy increases in their standard of living.

In case you're unconvinced, consider that the standard of living has actually decreased in 80 of the world's poorest countries over the last 20 years, a streak that no reasonable person could call "progress" towards industrialization.

A second trend closer to home sheds more light on the problem. Since we in the West have to labour so little to produce the necessities of life, the only way to maintain a rising standard of living – even if only for the well-off – is to create and sell increasingly frivolous and unnecessary services.

Without new services, people would have to satisfy themselves with what they already had, and neoclassical economics

absolutely forbids anyone from wanting anything other than MORE. Thus Bell offers VistaPhone, the number of TV channels expands into the thousands, and restaurants, the favoured children of service economies, proliferate.

All this begs two questions: must our standard of living always increase? And if not, how will stagnant productivity affect our quality of life?

The answer to the first question lies in the second. Standard of living really has no bearing on quality of life, argues University of Toronto Economics Professor Daniel Tefler. While standard of living represents a simple calculus of the number of hours a person must toil to be able purchase an array of products and services, quality of life goes beyond mere math to include factors such as health, happiness, and self-esteem.

To be sure, the two are related, at least during the early stages of economic development. But in societies as advanced as ours, the gulf between productivity and quality of life stand wide.

Failure to recognize this fact will lead to the apocalyptic demise of everything else we hold dear. I'll elaborate more soon.



# Back From the Dead

McGill students stage masterful production of Tom Stoppard classic

BY ALEX AWLETT

Smart, funny, and a little bit silly – if this play were a person it would make a great date.

Tuesday Night Café Theatre is presenting Tom Stoppard's *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*, directed by

Misha Feldman and Tyler Hargreaves. Stoppard was the writer behind the films *Shakespeare In Love* and *Brazil* – but he is best known for this wild and witty play.

The play follows two of Shakespeare's minor characters, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern, as they futilely try to assert their identity within *Hamlet*'s inflexible

plot. Conversations on fate, death, and cross-dressing juvenile prostitution ("every exit being an entrance somewhere else") are interwoven with segments from *Hamlet*. The heroes' quest to affirm their existence unfolds in this strange place on the periphery of the larger play.

The weight of the production falls mostly on the shoulders of the title characters. Jonathan Black as Rosencrantz, and Rachel Horton as Guildenstern, energetically ream off verbal tennis matches, philosophical treatises, and nonsense dialogues from beginning to end.

Black's existential antics play well off Horton's bemused and befuddled straight-man. Leila Nadel-Cadaxa as The Player is perfectly wry and ironic. The bawdy and eccentric performance of her travelling company of actors nicely balances the play's verbal humour. *Hamlet*, played by Christopher Halfnight, defines *dour*. Dark and intelligent, his performance makes a full production of *Hamlet* seem like an



Pierre-Alain Porfond

interesting prospect. The sets are sparse, and the lighting simple, but both work well with the action of the piece – especially in the sea-tossed last act.

Rosencrantz and Guildenstern is contagious. You may find yourself hours later philosophizing rabidly on the correlation between sanity and weather conditions (which seems less far fetched, looking out the window this morning) or refusing to

speak in anything but questions. This is a good production of a great script, which makes for a totally entertaining evening.

*Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* plays at Morrice Hall January 26 to 29 at 8pm each evening. tickets: \$8 and \$6 for students and seniors. For reservations, call 398-6600.



**Spring Break,  
Daytona Beach,  
Florida**

**February 19-27, 2000**

A week of mega-bands, huge parties & spring break insanity - the **MuchMusic** way.

Win a trip for two to **SANDJOB 2000** at

**Certz Pub, McGill University**

ENTER TO WIN - January 20th

GRAND PRIZE DRAW - January 27th

**The Peel Pub,  
1107 rue Ste. Catherine ouest**

ENTER TO WIN - January 19th

GRAND PRIZE DRAW - January 26th

Here's how you can book your own official SandJob 2000 Spring Break Trip!

Visit:

**TRAVEL CUTS  
VOYAGES CAMPUS**

Call:

SandJob 2000 hotline:  
**1-800-465-4257**

Go Online:

**muchmusic.com**

10 THE MCGILL DAILY - January 24, 2000 - CULTURE

## Dog's Lives

Lost souls' desperation on stage at the Wildside Festival

BY SARAH COHEN

January (Celia McBride, director and actress) is permanently clenching her fists. Her hands betray her discomfort and anger. Thomson (Kent Waters) has round eyes and a bloated look. His anxiety and despair show through his face. The third character (Robert Astle) is an out-of-reality figure. He behaves like a stray dog that is brushed away like a fly in every place and time. Here are the three characters who opened the third edition of the Wild Side Festival on Wednesday. They offer a hard but genuine description of human beings in their loneliness.

THEY ARE DOGGED BY THEIR LIES...

The two first characters meet in a scene from *Last Stop for Miles*, a play directed by Celia McBride. January and Thomson don't know each other, but tragic circumstances bring them together. The truth they have always been trying to flee is slowly coming out again during one of their torturing discussions.

January, whose name sounds as cold as her life, says, "I'm a perpetual leaver." This sentence sums up the play. In order to avoid facing reality, she keeps on closing her eyes and throwing a pocket map in the air. The page on which it falls tells her the road she will have to follow the next day.

*Last Stop for Miles* is a dialogue between two disturbed characters that realize how life can be unfair. The actors know how to convey depressive attitudes through meaningful gestures and words. The girl always stands up or sits down. She

doesn't know what position to choose – an indecisiveness that also haunts her daily life. She speaks about everything and nothing, about her fur jacket or about the crisps she likes. However, when she runs out of subjects, she prefers to leave rather than face the truth about herself. Celia McBride makes her characters express the harshness of life. She tackles drugs, alcohol, sex, and violence.

However, the serious dimension of human despair is evoked with humor and a touch of derision. This gives strength to the play and makes it more real.

...AND HE HAS A DOG'S LIFE

The second play is a complete and crazy dream or nightmare; the audience will decide. *Heart of a Dog*, directed by Robert Astle and Agnes Limbo, is about a ridiculous and misshapen figure that is thrown out into the streets of Moscow. The great Russian rock'n'roll in the background gives us the context.

He is dressed in rags and carries two suitcases. Inside is a junk room of dreams and stories that he will tell little by little: "This is the story of a book...and a dog." It is about the tragedy of his life, but he relates it with

all the energy he can find.

*Heart of a Dog* is a one-man show, but Robert Astle fills up the space with impressive talent. He unpacks his suitcases as he unpacks his life. He leads an existence of permanent scorn from his superiors. He keeps on screaming against injustice, but meanwhile he laughs, he imagines, he hopes.

With a comedic tone, *Heart of a Dog* is full of subtlety. The monologue and the game offer a great deal of discreet reflection on society.

The third edition of the Wild side Festival will last until January 30. Five plays of wild humour and imagination will take place in the Centaur Theater, 453 St.-Francois Xavier, in Old Montreal. \$10 for adults and \$8 for students. For more information: 288-3161.





## daily classifieds

Ads may be placed through the Daily Business Office, Room 8-07, University Centre, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication. McGill Students & Staff (with valid ID): \$4.75 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$4.25 per day. General Public: \$6.00 per day, or \$5.00 per day for 3 or more consecutive days. Extra charges may apply, prices include applicable GST or PST. Full payment should accompany your advertising order and may be made in cash or by personal cheque (for amounts over \$20 only). For more information, please visit our office or call 398-6790. **WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. PLEASE CHECK YOUR AD CAREFULLY WHEN IT APPEARS IN THE PAPER.** The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damages due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

## HELP WANTED

**Master School of Bartending**  
Bartending and table service courses. Student rebate, placement program. 849-2828, www.Bartending.com

**Seeking French speaking** Dancers for European Night service. Serious calls only. Various shifts available. 514-591-9558

## SUMMER CAMP JOBS

Laurentians, June 27-Aug 16: Swim, Sail, Windsurf, Waterski, Canoe, Kayak, Golf, Gymnastics, Tennis, Basketball, Football, Wall-Climbing, Archery, Roller-Hockey, Baseball, Soccer, Arts & Crafts, Pottery, Beadmaking, Photography, Drama instructors, plus NURSING students to assist Camp Doctor. E-MAIL resume [ronnie@generation.net](mailto:ronnie@generation.net) or fax (514) 481-7863.

**Microbrewery requires part-time** person to man sample booth in local grocery stores. Call 276-0744 Peter.

Part-time bus-boy needed at Biddle's Jazz. Call Lydia. 842-8656.

**Managing Editor/Contributing Writers and Editors** For National Fashion and Lifestyle Magazines. Send c.v. toll free to Vertex 1-877-435-7801. Or email: [vertex@laurentides.net](mailto:vertex@laurentides.net)

**Metropolitan News 866-9227 1109** Cypress St. Newspapers & magazines loaded with ads for jobs, business, apts, condos, etc. Needs someone to help at their leisure hours. Also student with computer at his convenience, Mac literate.

**Computer Literate** bright patient student need to help techno-phobic Prof master ner computer. Rate negotiable/time flexible. Lv message 486-6883.

**Finance Coordinator**  
Non-profit, student-based environmental and social justice group seeks experienced, bilingual finance coordinator to handle financial planning, payroll, and computer bookkeeping. 7-15 hrs/week, \$12.85/hr. Bring or send 2 copies of CV and a cover letter to: Finance Coordinator Hiring Committee, QPIRG-McGill, 3647 University, Montreal, H3A 2B3 by Feb. 4, 2000. Mor info, details: 398-7432.

## WORDPROCESSING/TYPING

**Success To All Students**  
WordPerfect 5.1 Term papers, resumes, applications, transcription of tapes. Editing of grammar. 31 years experience. \$1.25/D.S.P. (same day \$1.50) 7 Days/week. On Campus/Peel/ Sherbrooke. Paulette 288-9638.

**Word-Processing.** Word-Perfect 5.1, Laser printer. Fast professional service. Reasonable rates. McGill Ghetto. Brigitte 282-0301.

**Attractive + professional** typing services. Expert work, ant very reasonable prices. Essays/term/ research/thesis/letters/flyers. Internet + fax access. 483-6374.

## NEED TIME TO RELAX?

For some spare time while studying, call KATHLEEN'S BUSINESS SERVICES for term papers, resumes, reports, etc. @ 514-487-1750.

**Camp Trillium**  
a children's residential summer camp for kids with cancer and their families is looking for counselors/lifeguards/cooks/maintenance/boat drivers/activity heads/nurses.

Fun! Exciting! Rewarding! \$\$\$ (Beg. June to End Aug.) Send apps./ resumes A.S.A.P. as most hiring is completed by mid Feb.

April or Dan... Fax. (905) 527-5314 Phone: (905) 527-1992 E-mail, [danw@camptrillium.com](mailto:danw@camptrillium.com)

virtues of humanity and the innocence of native Africa.

Many of the songs are nostalgic pieces and there are a couple good pieces about the hypocrisy of the rich MC, especially on "Shallow Days" and "Deception."

There is also a tendency in the album towards some non-American sounds. This is most evident on the track "Smithsonian Institute of Rhyme."

It is the last track of the album that pulls it all together as Gift of Gab and Erinn Anova come together and continue what they did on the first track, which works out as "Searching" and "Finding." They mostly end with some ideological statement about "our Ancestors shoulders we stand upon" and "Adjustments of the mind" we must make to begin "the dawning of a new era."

Whether this myth-making beat is better than conventional hip-hop is beyond me. But it certainly brings out a different point of view on the subject.

-Jon Woodside

**Look out for the Daily's Black History Issue, coming up Feb. 10th! If ya wanna help out, come by the office and ask for Jaime, or drop us an e-mail at [mcgilldaily@hotmail.com](mailto:mcgilldaily@hotmail.com)**

## TYPING SERVICES

**REASONABLE PRICES**  
Wordprocessing + Internet Access. Term papers + letter + translation. Word + Excel + other at home work, Editing + correcting. 514-637-1647.

## LESSONS / COURSES

**Travel-Teach English.**  
5 day/40 hr MTL: July 17-21, OTT. June 5-9 & Oct 11-15. TESOL teacher cert. course (or by corresp.) 1000's of jobs available. NOW. Free Info pack, toll free 1-888-270-2941.

**Come and Practice** your French with francophones - Bilingual Club 1/2-1/2 (450) 465-9128

## MOVING / STORAGE

**Moving/Storage.** Closed van or truck. Local & long distance. Ott-Tor-NY-Fla-7 days, 24 hours, low rates. Steve 735-8148.

## H O U S I N G

**Spacious renovated 2 1/2** for rent in NDG cottage, close to bus 24, 105, 63 and Vendôme station, furnished, lighted and heated with garden space, independent entry. Now vacant. 360\$/m. 489-6491/fax 489-5019 or [k33560@er.uqam.ca](mailto:k33560@er.uqam.ca)

## F O R S A L E

Sofa and Chair, dark blue, moveable cushions, 1 year old, comfy cozy. Paid \$1200.00, re-sale \$600.00. 514-481-4087.

## ADVERTISE!

CALL SASHA OR BORIS  
NOW: 398-6790

## ESPACE HAIRCRAFT

coiffure

273 Milton/Parc  
Montréal  
284 • 9114

Monday-Wednesday 10 am-7 pm • Thursday-Friday 10 am-9 pm • Saturday 10 am-6 pm



**STUDENT SPECIALS**  
\$25 Him & Her  
Tues/Wed/Thurs

## Summer Camp Jobs in the U.S.A.

**Lakeside Residential Girls Camp in Maine**  
Visas Arranged

**Counselors:** Combined childcare/teaching. Must be able to teach or lead one or more of the following activities: gymnastics, tennis, swim, sail, canoe, water ski, arts (including stained glass, sewing, jewelry, wood, photo), dance, music, theatre, archery, wilderness trips, field sports, equestrian.

**Service Workers:** Maintenance, laundry, office, kitchen. Non-smokers. June 18 to August 24. Attractive salary (US) plus travel allowance. Send resume (C.V.) including phone number to:

Kippewa, Box 340,  
Westwood, Massachusetts, 02090-0340, U.S.A.  
e-mail: [kippewa@tiac.net](mailto:kippewa@tiac.net) | tel: 781-762-8291 | fax: 781-255-7167

**CENTRE HOSPITALIER de ST. MARY**  
ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL CENTER  
380 AVENUE LACOMBE, MONTREAL, QUEBEC, H3T 1M5

## FLU STUDY

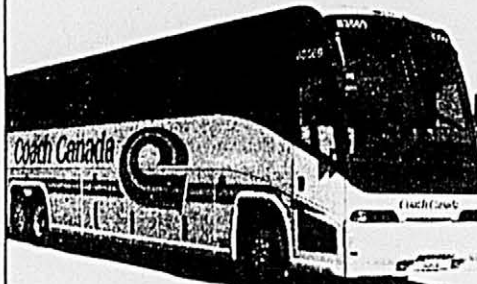
Do you suffer from asthma or chronic obstructive lung disease?

If you have fever with sore throat, muscle aches, cough or headache, you may be coming down with the flu (influenza). The Division of Infectious Diseases at St. Mary's Hospital is conducting a study on a new drug to treat influenza. You must be older than 18 and have the symptoms for less than 36 hours.

If you are interested in participating,  
call 345-3511, ext. 3075.

Thanks to all those who came in for movie tix from the Daily last week! They were the fastest tickets to go yet! Remember kids, pick your Daily up early to get the goodies!

your ticket to ride!  
**Student Discounts up to 40%**



This offer valid for all regularly scheduled services operated by Coach Canada (Montreal Corridor, Niagara Peninsula and Key Southwestern Cities.)

For Fare & Schedule Information Call

842-2281  
1-800-461-7661

**Coach Canada**  
Operated by trentway-wagor inc.

## Job Opportunity for Grad Students.

Seeking English and Italian as second language teachers for corporate contracts. Must hold a B.A. in applicable field and have some experience. Mostly evenings in Lasalle and V.S.L. Starting wage \$15.00 per hour.

**INSTRUCTION ESSENTIELLE**  
KATHLEEN MCKEOWN 989-1992

## OPTOMETRIST

Students are covered for eye exam and get \$75 coverage toward eye glasses or contacts with their Health Insurance.

•Eye Exam •Eye Glasses

•Contact Lenses  
IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE ON MOST PRESCRIPTIONS

•"40% off on all frames."  
VALID WITH THIS AD

**Dr. David Kwavnick, O.D.**  
1535 Sherbrooke St. W.  
(corner Guy)

**933-8700**

## Camp MaroMac

est. 1968

Requests  
**University Students & Teachers**  
in  
**Education Phys.Ed Social Work**  
**Psychology Recreation Medicine**  
**Business Admin.**

As  
**Counselors & Qualified Instructors**

In  
**Swimming Sailing Waterskiing Kayak**  
**Canoeing Baseball Basketball Soccer**  
**Tennis Rollerblading Rockclimbing**  
**Volleyball Drama Arts & Crafts**  
**Music. Food Service Secretaries**

We offer  
**Camp MaroMac Millennium Magic**  
and  
**Super Salaries!**

**www.maromac.com**  
**(514) 485-1135**

## SIENA SUMMER MUSIC INSTITUTE (Florence)

Culture, language, travel, concerts, Credit/non-credit. Rome, Venice, 3 days in Switzerland. Students, Grads, Professionals; July 17 to August 19, 2000 Cost \$1,885 U.S. Special low cost charter flight; Write/call: 203-754-5741 SESSIONE SENESE PER LA MUSICA/ARTE Director, 595 Prospect Road, Waterbury, CT 06706 website: [www.sienamusic.org](http://www.sienamusic.org)



# Angela's Ashes an Irish Epic

*Adaptation of Pulitzer Prize-winner introspective tale of adversity and hope*

BY DANIELLE HOFFMAN

As one of the few who have yet to read Frank McCourt's memoir *Angela's Ashes*, I was unsure what to expect when watching the movie. What I got was a dark, yet heartfelt movie with welcome bursts of hilarity and hope.

The story begins with Frank's family living in squalor in Brooklyn. In order to escape the depression and be closer to family they decide to move back to Limerick, Ireland, his mother's home, and live in even greater squalor — across from the communal privy and with a flooded ground floor. The story gets more grim as Frank's adorable siblings die in infancy, his permanently unemployed father spends their precious money on drink, and life generally gets worse for the beleaguered family as Frank grows older and begins to realize his own ambitions.

While Robert Carlyle as the alcoholic father and Emily Watson as the long-suffering mother are given top billing and turn in fabulous performances (Watson brings considerable depth to her portrayal of Angela), the story belongs to the excellent acting of the three boys who play Frank and who bear a striking resemblance to one another. Joe Breen as the 6-

year-old is adorable, able to create both great humour and heart-wrenching sadness. After one of his beloved brothers has died, Frank kneels before his family's crucifix and prays for each member of his

family not to be put in a box and buried in the ground, and he finishes, "in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Toast."

The next incarnation is Ciaran Owens

as the 10-year-old Frank, an awkward adolescent who recognizes his father's shortcomings and tries his best to take his place in the family. Owens portrays his growing hope and seeming optimism with clarity

and sincerity.

Michael Legge as the teenage Frank is also wonderful in depicting his ambition, determination, and eventual success.

While all the main characters were excellent, I was equally impressed by the wide variety of vibrant supporting characters: his narrow-minded teachers who blame the English for everything, including the terrible weather; his devoutly religious grandmother who deplores his unruly "Protestant hair"; his first love a desperate girl stricken with consumption.

When Aunt Aggie, one of the usually tightlipped and sullen members of the family, buys Frank a new suit for his job as a telegram deliverer and shows real affection for the first time, I was in tears at the tenderness of the scene.

The director, Alan Parker, excels at creating dark, damp scenes with plenty of puddles, mud, filth, and incessant rain, yet there are enough moments of optimism and humour to keep the film from becoming excessively dark. John Williams' score, contrary to his usual sweeping adventure soundtracks like *Indiana Jones* and *Star Wars*, is bittersweet, melancholic, and never intrusive. Their combined efforts have a profound influence in making this a moving and sincere motion picture.



The McCourt family faced an uphill battle documented in Frank McCourt's autobiography.

## ...endnotes

### NO MORE GOAT TOSS

Under extreme pressures from animal rights groups, the Spanish town of Munguac has decided to forego the annual tradition of tossing a goat from a bell tower. Tradition in this northwestern town holds that the annual festival of St. Vincent, the local patron saint, cannot begin until a goat is thrown 15 metres from the bell tower and caught safely in a tarp. The event was scheduled for next Sunday, but the cries of protest that began in 1992 have finally bore fruition.

Might we at The Daily propose a few alternatives to the goat for the people of Munguac? Perhaps to appease the local vegetarians, they could toss a 150-pound slab of tofu from the bell tower. Either way, it appears that, for better or for worse, another tradition of the modern world has been crushed between the letters P and C. — *Tal Pinchinsky*

### ROYAL CARIBBEAN TO PAY

Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines has agreed to pay the state of Alaska \$3.5-million for dumping toxic chemicals and oil-contaminated water into Alaskan waters. How nice of those cruise people to admit to the error of their ways. This settlement is in addition to \$6.5-million in federal fines that the cruise line had agreed (there's that word again) to pay last year after admitting to dumping numerous chemicals, including dry-cleaning fluid. These funds will be used to prevent future oil spills and monitor smokestack emissions from cruise ships.

Let's hope that the next preventive measure taken by the likes of Royal

Caribbean will be to stay out of Alaska altogether. Cruise ships bring about 600,000 visitors to Alaska each year, jolting the local economy but also bringing crowding and noise in to the area and destroying its natural beauty. The Environmental Protection Agency estimates that each cruise ship that enters Alaska generates about 100 gallons of wastewater a day, including raw sewage and ground-up food waste in certain areas.

I guess we'll have to enjoy these cruises while we can before Royal Caribbean starts offering their deluxe waste-dumping, seal-clubbing package. — *TP*

### WELCOME TO SLUTTOWN

The small and rustic town of Halfway, Oregon, has become the first municipality to name itself for the all-encompassing dot-com suffix. The small town of about 360 citizens has decided to temporarily change its name to Half.com. All of you that have been frequenting Halfway for the past few years will now notice a sign on the road into town that reads, "Welcome to the first dot-com city in America, Half.com — aka Halfway, Oregon."

A Pennsylvania company of the same name has given the city \$75,000, 22 computers, and the promise to build web sites for the city's many local businesses. In the spirit of this advertising ploy and the benefits that have emerged as a result, I have decided to legally change my name. That's right, starting next week my new name will be Jack Daniel's. With my newfound identity I will no doubt find myself perpetually loaded (in more ways than one) thanks to a fine group of distillers somewhere in Lynchburg, Tennessee. Or is that Lynch.com? — *TP*

ALLIANCE ATLANTIS VIVAFILM THE MCGILL DAILY

**PRESENT**

**Ice cube**

**Next Friday**

**#1**  
at the American box-office on opening week-end!

ALLIANCE ATLANTIS VIVAFILM AND NEW LINE CINEMA PRESENT A CUBEVISION PRODUCTION ICE CUBE "NEXT FRIDAY" MAXEPPS JOHN WITHERSPOON TAMARA JONES AND TOMMY "TNT" LISTER JR. AS "TENO" BY TERENCE BLANCHARD  
SPRING ASPERS JELENA MAGANIM DONA LUTON CHRISTOPHER RAITA JONAS CURTIS MATT ALVAREZ MICHAEL GRIER CHARE RHONICK POLSTEN ICE CUBE  
BASED ON CHARACTERS CREATED BY ICE CUBE AND RAJ POOM ICE CUBE PATTY CARO  
NEW LINE CINEMA MPAA RATED FOR LANGUAGE, DRUG USE, AND SOME SMOKING  
SOUNDTRACK FEATURING NEW SONGS BY AYLA WYCLIFF JEAN BAUTISTA ICE CUBE BIG TIMERS FEATURING LL WYXNE AND MAXI QZ LL ZANE AND MORE  
ekut

**OPENS FRIDAY, JANUARY 28TH!**